237

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For abolishing Fees received by Officers in the Service of the Customs in the several Ports of *Ireland*, and for regulating the Hours of Attendance and the Number of Holidays to be observed by the said Officers and certain Officers of Excise.

Note.—*The Figures in the Margin denote the Number of the Folios in the written Copy.*

Preamble.

1 WHEREAS various Officers and other Persons in the Service of His MAJESTY's Customs and Port Duties in the several Ports of *Ireland*, employed in the examination, warehousing and delivery of Goods and Merchandize imported, exported, or brought or carried Coastwise into or from the said Ports, have long been in the practice of receiving Fees and Gratuities for the execution of their official Duties:

And whereas great Inconvenience arises therefrom, and also from the Number of Holidays kept at the said Ports, and by various Officers of His Majesty's Revenues:

And whereas it would greatly tend to the Benefit of the fair Trader and the Security of the Revenue if the said Fees were abolished, and the Attendance of the said Officers were properly regulated:

**Be it therefore Enacted** by the KING's Most Excellent MAJESTY, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That from and after the

No Fees to be required or received by any Officer acting under the Commissioners of Customs and Port Duties.

no Fee, Perquisite, Gratuity or Reward, whether pecuniary or of any other
2 sort or description whatever, shall be required, taken or received from any Person or Persons whomsoever by any Officer, Clerk, Deputy or other Person appointed by or acting under the Commissioners of Customs and Port Duties in Ireland, or by any Officer, Clerk, Deputy or other Person executing, performing or assisting in the execution or performance of any of the Duties, or acting by themselves or others in any of the Offices or Employments in or belonging to His Majesty's Customs and Port Duties in Ireland, for any Service, Act, Duty, Matter or Thing done or performed or to be done or performed by any such Officer, Clerk, Deputy or other Person or Persons on account of or relating to or under the pretext of any



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ſuch Office or Employment, except as is herein provided, any thing in any Act or Acts to the contrary notwithſtanding; and that if any ſuch Officer, Clerk, Deputy or other Perſon ſhall at any time after the ſaid require, take or receive any Fee, Perquiſite, Gratuity or Reward, whether pecuniary or of any other ſort or deſcription whatever, except as is herein excepted, either directly or indirectly, on account of or relating to or under pretext of any ſuch Office or Employment, or for any Service, Act, Duty, Matter or Thing done or performed or to be done or performed therein, although the ſame ſhall be freely offered or given, every ſuch Officer, Clerk, Deputy or other Perſon ſhall, on Proof thereof to the Satisfaction of the ſaid Commiſſioners of Cuſtoms and Port Duties in Ireland, or any or more of them, be for ſuch Offence peremptorily diſmiſſed from his Office or Employment, and be rendered incapable, and ſhall be ever after incapable of holding or executing or acting in any Office or Employment in the Service of His Majeſty's Cuſtoms or Exciſe, or in any Branch of His Majeſty's Revenue in Ireland.

Act not to prevent Officers receiving Shares of Seizures.

Provided always, and be it further Enacted, That nothing in this Act contained ſhall extend or be conſtrued to extend to prevent any Officer or other Perſon holding or exerciſing or acting in or performing the Duties of any of the ſaid Offices or Employments, from receiving ſuch Reward or Satisfaction for or on account of any Detention, Seizure, or Forfeiture of any Goods, Wares, or Merchandize, or any Penalty or Share of Penalty or Compoſition, which under any Law now in force, or hereafter to be paſſed in relation to the Duties under the Management of the Commiſſioners of Cuſtoms and Port Duties, he is or may be legally entitled to, or to prevent any ſuch Officer, Clerk or Perſon from receiving any Allowance, Gratuity or Reward which the Lord High Treaſurer or Lords Commiſſioners of His Majeſty's Treaſury of Ireland, or any or more of them, with the Conſent of the Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of Ireland for the time being, or the Commiſſioners of His Majeſty's Cuſtoms and Port Duties in Ireland, or any or more of them, with the like Conſent reſpectively, may think fit to direct.

Commiſſioners of Cuſtoms ſhall aſcertain the Fees received by Officers for Years, and the average Amount for Three Years, and lay the ſame before the Lord Lieutenant and Treaſury.

AND, in order that proper Compenſation may be made to any Officer, Clerk or other Perſon employed in or holding any Office in the Service of the Cuſtoms at any Port in Ireland, who may ſuſtain loſs by the Abolition of Fees directed by this Act; BE it Enacted, That the Commiſſioners of Cuſtoms and Port Duties ſhall, immediately after the prepare Tables, containing the annual Amount of the Fees, Perquiſites, Gratuities and Rewards eſtabliſhed by Law or ſanctioned by uninterrupted Uſage for Years laſt paſt, which each Officer, Clerk or other Perſon who may ſuſtain a loſs by the Abolition of Fees directed by this Act or by an Act of the Forty-ſixth year of His preſent Majeſty, for permitting the free Interchange of every ſpecies of Grain between Great Britain and Ireland, received, or which his Predeceſſor or Predeceſſors and he did receive for any Service, Act, Matter, or Thing done or executed by him or them in the performance of the Duties of his or their Office or Employment held by him or them, during the Three Years ending on together with the yearly Average thereof, calculated on the Amount of the ſaid Three Years, excluſive of all Gratuities, Allowances, or Monies received by him or them out of His Majeſty's Revenues, or out of any Seizure, Fine or Forfeiture, and ſhall lay the ſame, certified under their Hands, before the Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of Ireland for the time being, and before the ſaid Commiſſioners for executing the Office of Lord High Treaſurer.

And

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And be it further Enacted, That the ſaid Commiſſioners of Cuſtoms and Port Duties, ſhall regularly pay or cauſe to be paid to every ſuch Officer, Clerk or other Perſon, ſuch Sum annually by way of Compenſation for his loſs of Fees, Perquiſites and Gratuities under this Act, not exceeding in any Year the average Amount aforeſaid, as the Lord Lieutenant, or other Chief Governor or Governors of Ireland for the time being ſhall direct, under his or their ſign manual, counterſigned by or more of the ſaid Commiſſioners for executing the Office of Lord High Treaſurer; and every ſuch Payment by way of Compenſation, ſhall commence from the day whereon the Perſon for whom the ſame ſhall be directed ſhall have ceaſed to take or receive any Fee, Perquiſite, Gratuity or Reward under the directions of this Act, and ſhall continue during the time any ſuch Perſon ſhall continue to hold ſuch Office or Employment.

Commiſſioners ſhall pay Officers annual Compenſation for loſs of Fees.

Provided always, and be it further Enacted, That no Perſon ſhall be entitled to receive any ſuch Payment by way of Compenſation or any part thereof, until he ſhall have taken the following Oath; that is to ſay:

Oath of Officer receiving Compenſation.

" I, *A. B.* do ſwear, That I will not require, take, or receive any " Fee, Perquiſite, Gratuity or Reward, whether pecuniary or of any " other ſort or deſcription whatever, either directly or indirectly, " for any Service, Act, Duty, Matter or Thing done or performed, " or to be done or performed in the execution or diſcharge of " any of the Duties of my Office or Employment on any account " whatever, other than my Salary, and what is or ſhall be allowed " me by Law. So help me GOD."

And be it further Enacted, That every Perſon who ſhall after be appointed to any Office or Employment relating to the Cuſtoms or Port Duties in Ireland, ſhall at his Admiſſion thereto take the following Oath; that is to ſay:

Oath of all Officers.

" I, *A. B.* do ſwear to be true and faithful in the execution, to the " beſt of my knowledge and powers, of the Truſt committed to " my Charge and Inſpection in the Service of His Majeſty's " Cuſtoms; and that I will not require, take or receive any Fee, " Perquiſite, Gratuity or Reward, whether pecuniary or of any " other ſort or deſcription whatever, directly or indirectly, for any " Service, Act, Duty, Matter or Thing done or performed, or " to be done or performed in the execution or diſcharge of any " of the Duties of my Office or Employment on any account " whatever, other than my Salary, and what is or ſhall be allowed " me by Law. So help me GOD."

AND whereas it is expedient for the accommodation of Trade, and the better management of the Revenue of Cuſtoms, that the Hours of Attendance of the Officers, Clerks and other Perſons employed in the ſervice of the Cuſtoms ſhould be altered and regulated; BE it further Enacted, That from and after after the paſſing of this Act, all and every the Officers, Clerks and Perſons executing or performing or aſſiſting in the execution or performance of any of the Duties, or acting in any Office or Employment belonging to His Majeſty's Cuſtoms or Port Duties in Ireland, whether appointed by the Commiſſioners of Cuſtoms and Port Duties, or by His Majeſty's Patent, or by Deputation or other Inſtrument or Authority of any Patentee or other Officer or Perſon whatſoever, ſhall and they are hereby required, unleſs prevented by Sickneſs or other unavoidable Cauſe, which ſhall be made appear to the Satisfaction of

Hours of Attendance.



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His Majeſty's Commiſſioners of Cuſtoms and Port Duties, duly and regularly to attend at the reſpective Offices or Places where their Duty is or ſhall be directed to be executed and performed at the Hours and Times following, on every Day of the Year except Sundays, and the other Days hereinbefore excepted; that is to ſay, The Officers employed on the Quays, and all Out-door Officers, from the until the in every year, from the Hour of in every Morning to the Hour of in every Afternoon, and from the until the in every year, from the Hour of in every Morning to the Hour of in every Afternoon; and the Clerks and In-door Officers, and all others employed in the ſervice of the ſaid Cuſtoms and Port Duties, from the Hour of in every Morning until the Hour of in every Afternoon, during the whole year; and during the ſaid Hours and Times there ſhall not be any ceſſation or intermiſſion of Buſineſs on any pretence or account whatſoever, any Law, Cuſtom, or Uſage to the contrary notwithſtanding. 8

Commiſſioners may require extra Attendance.

Provided always, That nothing in this Act contained ſhall extend to prevent the Commiſſioners of Cuſtoms and Port Duties from directing and enforcing the Attendance of any Officer, Clerk or other Perſon employed in the ſervice of His Majeſty's Cuſtoms at any time or at any place where, on any particular Emergency the Public Service ſhall ſo require, or from directing or enforcing the Attendance of any Officer, Clerk, or other Perſon employed in the ſaid Service, at ſuch Hours, Times, and Places as the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall think fit and requiſite for the proper Diſcharge of the official Duties of any ſuch Officer, Clerk, or other Perſon. 9

Not to compel perſonal Attendance in certain caſes.

Provided alſo, and be it further Enacted, That nothing in this Act contained ſhall extend or be conſtrued to extend to compel the perſonal Attendance of any Perſon or Perſons who are now authorized to execute the Duties of their reſpective Offices or Employments in the ſervice of the Cuſtoms, by ſufficient Deputy or Deputies.

No Holidays (except Sundays, &c.) ſhall be kept by the Officers of the Cuſtoms, nor by Exciſe Officers concerned in granting Permits.

And be it further Enacted, That from and after after the paſſing of this Act, no Holidays or Days of non-attendance whatever, ſhall be permitted or allowed to be obſerved and kept at the Cuſtom-houſe in any of the Ports in Ireland, or by any Officer, Clerk or other Perſon belonging to or employed in the Service of His Majeſty's Cuſtoms and Port Duties, or by any Officer, Clerk or other Perſon employed in the ſervice of His Majeſty's Exciſe in Ireland, any way concerned in or relating to the granting, iſſuing, examining or regiſtering of Permits or Certificates of Permits, except Chriſtmas Day and Good Friday in every year, and any Days which ſhall be appointed by His Majeſty's Proclamation for the purpoſe of a General Faſt or Thankſgiving; and alſo the Anniverſaries of the Reſtoration of his Majeſty King Charles the Second, and of the Coronation of His Majeſty, and the Birth Days of their Majeſties, and of His Royal Highneſs the Prince of Wales; but that all Buſineſs at the Cuſtom-houſe, and relating to the ſervice of Cuſtoms and to the ſervice of the Exciſe in the reſpect aforeſaid, ſhall be carried on and performed on every Day throughout the year except on Sundays, and the Days before excepted; any Law, Uſage or Cuſtom to the contrary notwithſtanding. 10

Port Officer not to be entitled to Fee on Flax Seed or Hemp Seed.

AND whereas by an Act made in the Forty-ſecond Year of His preſent Majeſty's Reign, to amend the Laws for the better Regulation of the Linen Manufacture in Ireland, the Collector of the Port into which Flax Seed or Hemp Seed ſhall be imported, is empowered and required to demand and

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241

and receive the Sum of Sixpence for each Hogſhead, Caſk or Package containing Flax Seed or Hemp Seed, imported and examined as in the ſaid Act is mentioned, and to retain the Sum of Three Pence thereof to his own uſe, and to pay over the remainder thereof to the Officer appointed by the Truſtees of the Linen and Hempen Manufactures, to examine Flax Seed and Hemp Seed imported; BE it Enacted, That from and after the ſaid no Collector at any Port in Ireland, ſhall be entitled to or ſhall receive or demand from any Importer or Owner of any Flax Seed or Hemp Seed, ſuch Sum of Sixpence for every Hogſhead, Caſk or Package containing Flax Seed, under or by pretext of the ſaid recited Act; but that the Officer appointed by the Truſ-
11 tees of the Linen and Hempen Manufactures to examine Flax Seed and Hemp Seed imported, ſhall and may demand and receive to his own uſe the Sum of Three Pence for each and every ſuch Hogſhead, Caſk or Package which he ſhall examine, being the Amount which he is now entitled to by Law for ſuch his Examination; and it ſhall be lawful for every Collector to detain, and he is hereby required to detain every ſuch Hogſhead, Caſk or other Package, until he ſhall receive a Certificate under the Hand of ſuch Officer that the ſame has been examined according to Law, which Certificate ſuch Officer ſhall not be compellable to give until he ſhall have received ſuch Sum of Three Pence for each ſuch Hogſhead, Caſk or other Package as aforeſaid.

And be it further Enacted, That this Act may be altered, amended or repealed by any Act or Acts to be made in this preſent Seſſion of Parliament. Act may be altered in this Seſſion.



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# B I L L

For abolishing Fees received by Officers in the Service of the Customs in the several Ports of *Ireland*, and for regulating the Hours of Attendance, and the Number of Holidays to be observed by the said Officers and certain Officers of Excise.

*Ordered to be printed 1st April,*
1808.



232

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